

Private Construction Contractors Association of Slovakia

Monthly Report: February 1996

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0 Internal Affairs

The PCCAS Board Meeting was held in Prievidza. Participants included the Head of Minister Office, Mr. Ján RICOTTI (Ministry of Construction and Public Works); Minister Advisor Mr. SEDLÁ_EK; the ex-director of the large construction contractor company, PRIEMSTAV; the Mayor of Prievidza; the Chief of the Prievidza District; the Director of the Prievidza Local Hospital; and other guests. One topic of discussion was development in the Prievidza region, mainly housing, the revision of the District Act of Slovakia, highway/fast-way net in this region, etc.

Mr. Ján MRÁZ, of the Ministry of Construction and Public Works, Mr. KREN, of reunion STAVBA, Mr. SLÁVIK, President of ACES, and Mr. HE_KO, the President of PCCAS, held several meetings related to the preparation of the Slovak Federal Construction Conference. These meetings were primarily to address the investment, building, and construction process in Slovakia. Each of these four key groups invited other participants (the Ministry, 120; STAVBA, 80; ACES, 120; and PCCAS, 40), and each was asked to prepare materials on several topics for the general paper read by the Minister. Other conference invitees included Premier ME_IAR, Vice-premier KOZLÍK, Congressman LUPTÁK, and other influential representatives of Slovak government. This Conference is first of the regular Slovak Federal Conference, which will be held annually.

The USAID Office in Bratislava, KNO s.r.o., and PCCAS members were contacted several times to prepare documents and trip proposals for the education/training/business trip to the U.S.

1 Information Exchange

PCCAS staff participated in the two-week regular meeting of the Permanent Council of FEUA. The main topics were the fifth anniversary of the establishment of FEUA and the 30% increase in the cost of the electric power starting July 1, 1996. This change has large negative impact on construction product production and several legislative activities, namely the Railway Construction Act.

2 Membership Activities

February saw two new PCCAS members:

- AGROSTAV a.s. Senica - construction contractor Štefánikova 714/52, tel. +0042 802 4421, fax.: +0042 802 5559, number of employees: 274; and

- REGOTRANS-SAUTER s.r.o. - measurement and controls technics. Cuktrová 14, 816 28 Bratislava, tel. +0042 7 325603, fax.: +0042 7 325338, number of employees: 30.

3Staff Support for PCCAS Entrepreneurs

Vice-president Mr. Adolf ZAJAC prepared a detailed list of the construction companies who receive licenses to export the construction capacity to Germany. The list included the name of the company, the number of man-years requested, and the number of man-years that were given to the individual companies. This list is not public; it is only for internal PCCAS information. The extension of the number of the man-years under license for Slovak construction activities is this year blocked by the increasing number of the unemployed construction workers in eastern Germany at the end of the 1995 and in first month of 1996.

4Legislative Activities

The PCCAS Board gave PCCAS staff the task of asking the Ministry of Finance to explain the revision of the “DPH Act.” The representative of the Ministry of Finance sent a fax and gave the same explanation to the newspaper, *Hospodárske noviny*.

The PCCAS received the working material concerning the sub-law about the “Cost Act,” Act No. 18/1996 from the FEUA Board. This sub-law was incorporated into the PCCAS Preparation Seminars for the State Examination of Professional Responsibility for Selected Activity in Construction.

The PCCAS staff received some information about the preparation activity related to the Set of Standards ISO 7000. This European Union Set of Standards is focused on the audit of the ecology. Part of it related to that part of the construction industry that produces construction waste material.

The PCCAS Executive Committee with the cooperation with PCCAS Legislative Committee prepared the following PCCAS Legislative Mission Statement for next two years:

- the PCCAS participation on the Construction Product Act formulation;
- the sub-law for the implementation and use of the “Concession Act”;
- the law revision with the goal to establish the duty to measure the radon concentration in the land for new housing construction and/or remodeling and/or renovation;
- the law revision with the goal to establish the duty to organize the land seismic investigation at all construction sites for new heavy construction such as “atom electric power station,” “water works,” etc.; and

- the law revision with the goal to establish the professional responsibility for historical building/monument renovation for the individuals and/or for the company.

5Cooperation with Associations and Groups

An agreement was reached between the Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineers (SCCI) and the PCCAS about the SCCI securing the writing test as a part of the State examination of selected construction activity responsibility at the end of the PCCAS seminars for preparation for this examination.

This writing test is, for PCCAS seminars, the form of the evaluation of the participants' preparation on the State level.

6International Activities

PADCO Inc. informed the PCCAS by phone that the final financial data of PCCAS for PADCO was not delivered. This report and financial data and set of the bills were prepared in the PCCAS Office and sent to PADCO in the second half of January 1996. The PCCAS staff had thought that it was lost during transportation. On the basis of this information, the PCCAS staff tried to prepare a new report from the general financial file. Photocopies of the form that had been sent to PADCO did not exist. The PCCAS had only the photocopies of originals of the bills and the draft WERF.

7Public Relations and Marketing

The article about PCCAS history and perspective development was formulated by the Executive Director for the construction journal, EUROSTAV.

The biography of PCCAS President HE_KO was printed in the Information Service Journal of Federation of Employer's Unions and Associations (FEUA) of Slovakia. The biography touched on the relationship between the PCCAS and the FEUA during last two years. A copy is included with this report.

8Money-Making Activities

The Preparation Seminars for the State Examination of the Professional Capability for Selected Construction Activity Act No. 136/95 were held February 1-2 and February 12-13, 1996 at Bratislava and February 21-22, 1996 at Prievidza.

Several activities related to the IDF (institutional) Grant of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) were carried out to help with the public procurement tender for the most suitable subcontractor selection for Standard Bidding Document, Regulations and Public Procurement Guide development and implementation for Slovakia.

The PCCAS met with the German National Institute for Reconstruction and Development of German. This meeting related to the “VOB” regulation translation (German-Slovak) with a legislative explanation to the new Slovak Act for Historical Building and Monuments Renovation and Protection modeled after the German pattern, to the tradesman high school revision and cooperation with Germany’s similar type of high school, and to the Regional Offices of Slovak Construction Guilds and Tradesman Activities development.

9Regional Offices Activities

At the PCCAS Board Meeting, Prešov Regional Office Staff member Ms. KRASNAYOVÁ was introduced. She started the PCCAS Regional Office activities under the guidance of Mr. Viliam VALOVI_, a PCCAS Board Member.

The PCCAS Regional Office in Prievidza is extremely active in many areas.

10Technical Assistance Program

Coordination of the Helen English trip in Slovakia. The basic features and schedule of the program.

11Housing Information Clearinghouse

No specific activities were done.

12Housing Policy Program

Several municipalities (e.g., Prievidza) were asked for their housing development and privatization activities. It was decided that now is a good time to develop a suitable financial model for housing development. The PCCAS staff was charged with the specific task of preparing several ideas for the Slovak Federal Construction Conference related to this model.

13Housing Advocacy Program

Mr. Ján MRÁZ, Minister of Construction and Public Works, asked the PCCAS representatives to not start any specific activity related to housing advocacy until the approval of the Housing Development State Fund Act by the Slovak National Council.

The housing development and privatization local government policy was explained and commented on by the PCCAS Board.

Michal MA_AŠ

Executive Director